(e) whether these laboratories conform to the international standards?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Coronary diseases

2044. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study by the World Bank has revealed that fatalities from coronary diseases are likely to increase in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken/proposed to take to launch on massive scale an awareness programme to educate the people in preventing heart diseases?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (b) According to a study conducted by the World Health Organization, World Bank and other institutions, it is projected that the number of deaths due to coronary heart disease is expected to rise in the coming years. This increase is suggested to be linked to change in lifestyle such as decreased physical activity, change in food habits, increase in the fat and sugar consumption, increase urbanization and low intake of fibre and micronutrients (folic acid, antioxidants). The Government is spreading health messages to increase pulic health awareness about heart diseases and healthy living practices.

Population control measures

2045. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 'persuasive' methods have failed to check population in the country during the past 55 years; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed/planned to control population in view of gravity of the problem?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) The trend of population growth